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Dkt. 0655/69387

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Baofu Duan, et al.  
Serial No. : 10/615,885  
Filed : July 8, 2003  
For : HIERARCHICAL DETERMINATION OF FEATURE RELEVANCY

1185 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10036

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of the information listed in the annexed Form PTO-1449 is also provided.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in the annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). To the best of Applicant's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.

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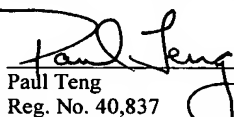
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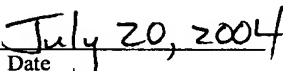
If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.


Respectfully submitted,

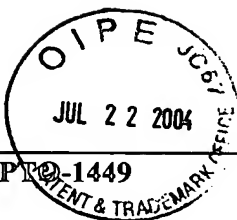
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<b>Form PTO-1449</b> <b>U.S. Department of Commerce</b> <b>Patent and Trademark Office</b>	<b>Atty. Docket No.</b> <b>0655/69387</b>	<b>Serial No.</b> <b>10/615,885</b>
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<b>Group Art Unit:</b>		

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